



WELL DEVELOPMENTS

Spring - 2009

BWWC

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Well Log Reports

In the 1950's, Well Logs were issued by drillers, from drilling notes, as a service to their customers prior to any requirements for licensing or reporting.

It was standard practice for well owners to provide the Well Logs to the Dept. of Health to facilitate filing a water right. In the early 1960s the Water Resources Board developed new forms for well owners and began filing the logs with the Applications for Water Rights.

The Water Use Act of 1973 required that Well Log Reports be filled out by the driller on a form provided by DNRC within 60 days after well completion.

The Well Logs are very helpful to the DNRC Water Rights offices in determining a water right by beneficial use of water. Even though the Well Logs are required to be filed within 60 days, there is no requirement that a Well Log is necessary for the well owner to make application for a water right.

Section 85-2-516, MCA, requires that all Well Log Reports be filed by the driller within 60 days after completion of any well. BWWC Rule ARM 36.21.504(1)g provides that disciplinary action may be taken against the licensee for failure to comply with Section 85-2-516.

This problem has been discussed with some of the contractors and the comment has been made that some contractors do not consider the well completed until full payment has been received. Once a well has been physically completed, the Well Log Report must be filed with the Mt. Bureau of Mines and Geology and a copy be given to the well owner within 60 days. Continued failure to file the reports promptly may result in action against the licensee.

Water Rights Fee

Please note the cost of filing for water rights is \$125. There have been a few new well owners that did not send in the right amount when they were filing for water rights. Some well owners got upset because they were misinformed about the cost and had to send more money to cover the filing fees.

New well logs are available with the new cost printed on them. If you would like the new updated well logs, please notify the Program Manager for the Board of Water Well Contractors at 444-6643.



Clyde Sando - Lic. 2
Billings MT. - Yellowstone County
Sando Drilling
Photo Date: February 1976

Continuing Education Opportunities

<u>MT Environmental Training Center</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Phone</u>
Spring Water School	April 15, 2009	Billings, MT	1-406-265-3763
<u>Northwest Pipe Fittings Inc - Grundfos</u>			
<u>Constant Pressure System Seminar</u>	April 14, 2009	Billings, MT	1-800-937-4737
	April 15, 2009	Belgrade, MT	1-800-937-4737
	April 16, 2009	Great Falls, MT	1-800-937-4737
<u>Franklin Electric Seminar</u>	March 19, 2009	Missoula, MT	1-800-348-2420

Exemption Permit

An Exemption Permit is required for the landowner or lessee that is performing the actual construction or abandonment of a well that is located on property they own or lease. This type of work is allowed under MCA 37-43-302(2)a. The permit must be approved before work commences.

Applications for the Exemption Permit can be found on the BWWC web site www.bwwc.mt.gov. There is a \$100 fee for the permit. The applicant must show that all construction laws and rules will be followed.

Variance Permit

Since the inception of the BWWC Administrative Rules in 1987, it was recognized that the well construction standards could not meet every conceivable situation that may arise when drilling. Due to special circumstances beyond the control of the contractor, variances are necessary.

ARM § 36.21.80 allows the BWWC to grant a variance where due to special circumstances or unusual conditions, the variance accomplishes two things: (1) the variance will adequately protect the public, and (2) the variance will adequately protect the groundwater sources.

Applications for the Variance Permit can be found on the BWWC web site www.bwwc.mt.gov. There is a \$100 fee for the permit. The applicant must show all construction/abandonment work that will be done.



Charles Wroble - Lic. 62
Stevensville MT. - Ravalli County
Ravalli Drilling
Photo Date: June 1976



Ray Peterson - Lic. 111
Sidney MT. - Richland County
Ray J. Peterson Well Drilling
Photo Date: December 1975



Robert F. Downs - Lic. 187
Hardin MT. - Big Horn County
Photo Date: October 1975



Ethel Whitaker - Lic. 10
Augusta MT. - Lewis & Clark County
Whitaker Well Service & Supply
Photo Date: April 1976



Chris Ingbretson - Lic. 202
Trout Creek MT. - Sanders County
Photo Date: October 1975



Montana Water Well Drillers Association - News

The Montana Water Well Drillers Association would like to recognize Vicki Lauth's tremendous dedication to the association. Vicki has attended 37 consecutive conventions with 25 of them being Executive Secretary. Talk about an amazing example of dedication, and loyalty. Even though she has retired as Executive Secretary, we hope she will bless us with her presence at many more!!!

The Board of Directors with the Montana Water Well Drillers Association would like to thank all the members that joined us at our convention in Helena. We also would like

to invite everyone that have not joined our Association to join with us so we would grow in numbers to make and impact. Do you want politicians in Helena to make laws that govern our industry? It takes an effort to get a new law passed or not passed. But Laws will not be changed for the better without your help. A strong association has a louder voice than just one or two contractors. Please plan on being with us at the MWWDA convention in Billings, February 2010. Contact any of the board members for information about our association and how to join.

*News items on this page by
Curt Sampson, Vice President*



Keith Morton - Lic. 275
Great Falls MT. - Cascade County
1936 Cyrus
Photo Date: February 1976

Joseph B. Spangler - Lic. 299
Superior MT. - Mineral County
Photo Date: May 1976



(Association News continued...)

In Memory

DUANE L. HAUSER, 76, of Three Forks died at his home Friday, Aug. 15. He was born Dec. 7, 1931 in Ellinwood, Kan. to Louis and Mabel (Meggers) Hauser. In 1964 he started Red Tiger Drilling in Colby, Kan. In 1979, he moved his successful business to Manhattan, where it continues to operate today.

DANIEL L. NELSON, 61, of Lewistown, died Wednesday November 5th 2008 of injuries sustained in a two vehicle accident. He was born April 19th 1947 in Torrington, Wyoming. Married to Georgann Singley and worked with his father in law at Singley Drilling in Lewistown, MT.

MARVIN "DICK" WOELICH, 80, of Hysham, MT passed away Tuesday, March 25th 2008. He was born September 14th 1927 in Neeleys Landing, MO. Marvin worked in the oilfield but left to start a career as a well driller. He was also a member of the Montana Water Well Driller Association.

LUELLA O'KEEFE, 75, passed away on January 1st 2009. She was born in Harrison, Montana on November 27th 1933. Luella was married to Ed O'Keefe. In 1959 she helped start O'Keefe Drilling of Butte.

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Dept. of Natural Resources - Water Rights Bureau

Regional Office	Counties served	Phone
Billings	Big Horn, Carbon, Carter, Custer, Fallon, Powder River, Prairie, Rosebud, Stillwater, Sweet Grass, Treasure, Yellowstone	(406) 247-4415
Bozeman	Gallatin, Madison, Park	(406) 586-3136
Glasgow	Daniels, Dawson, Garfield, McCone, Phillips, Richland, Roosevelt, Sheridan, Valley, Wibaux	(406) 228-2561
Havre	Blaine, Chouteau, Glacier, Hill, Liberty, Pondera, Teton, Toole	(406) 265-5516
Helena	Beaverhead, Broadwater, Deerlodge, Jefferson, Lewis & Clark, Powell, Silverbow	(406) 444-6999
Kalispell	Flathead, Lake, Lincoln, Sanders	(406) 752-2288
Lewistown	Cascade, Fergus, Golden Valley, Judith Basin, Meagher, Musselshell, Petroleum, Wheatland	(406) 538-7459
Missoula	Granite, Mineral, Missoula, Ravalli	(406) 721-4284

Dept. of Environmental Quality Subdivision Review Program

Billings Office	(406) 247-4447
Helena Office	(406) 444-4400
Kalispell Office	(406) 755-8985
Missoula Office	(406) 258-3720

Environmental Protection Association - Discharge Permits

Tillman McAdams	Helena	(406) 457-5015
Douglas Minter	Denver	(303) 312-6079

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Persons with disabilities who need an alternative, accessible format of this document should contact:

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